

Remarks/Arguments

Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-12, 15 and 23), without traverse, for further prosecution on the merits. Claims 15 and 23 have been amended to delete reference to the polynucleotides pursuant to the Restriction Requirement, and limit the claims to the compounds of Claims 1-8. Claims 13, 17-20, 22, and 27-30 have been cancelled to expedite prosecution.

Claims 25-26 have been amended, consistent with the amendments to Claim 1, and indicated as being both amended and withdrawn from consideration. Ideally, as these claims are directed to methods of treatment using the compounds of Group I, such claims will be rejoined upon indication of allowability of the compounds of Group I.

New claim 31 has been added, which is directed to the compounds of Group I, wherein there are adjacent cysteine residues. This amendment adds no new matter.

Conclusion

It is believed that the claims are currently in condition for examination on the merits. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if she has any questions regarding the above.

Respectfully submitted,



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